**Athens**

* A greater population about 140,000
* Direct democracy (birthplace of democracy): elected officials, and had jury services
* All male citizens were freeman and divided into many classes: Top were aristocrats, middle small farmers, and low thetes (urban craftsmen) Metics, people from outside the city. Slaves were the lowest.
* Delian league. Protected and taxed other city-states.
* Had a strong navy
* Democratic values: Government participation is a civic responsibility, were “cultural superiority”
* Women had no rights, considered as property of their husbands. They mostly stayed at home working on domestic work. Some led high ritual post, Athena.
* Created art, architecture, drama, and literature, philosophy, science, medicine, government (trial by jury)

**Sparta**

* About 108,000, most of its people population were enslaved people
* It was more of an oligarchy (ruled by a few), elements of monarchy, democracy, and aristocracy. Two kings, five overseers like governors, and a senate
* Three social classes Spartiates (Military professionals), Perioeci (freemen), and Helots (serfs/rebellions).
* Peloponnesian league
* Had a strong and fearful army
* Militaristic values: It was as emphasized for boys were trained in warfare and taught to be ruthless. Children were also taught to be respectful
* Citizens were not allowed to own luxuries. (Lycurgus created the system of strict separations of classes and militaristic systems.
* Women had freedom and rights. They treated as an equal to men.
* Philosophy Plato’s “the Republic” first attempts to formulate an ‘ideal’ community

**Comparisons**

* Political: The assembly and council of 500 similar to House of Representatives and senate. Open discussion. Women were not allowed to participate in political life.
* Boys trained military school and were educated in the arts, athletics, math and literature.
* Both had slaves/ helots. They had little rights and were treated harshly.
* Both fought (and had conflicts) with each other in the Peloponnesian war

Source: <http://www.pbs.org/empires/thegreeks/educational/lesson1.html>